JUL 0 9 200/

72

22718 EXAMEDITED HANDLING BOX AI

OIPE

THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

aventor

Patrick REINHOLD et al

Patent App.

10/726,817

Filed

2 December 2003

Conf. No. 4112

For

CONTINUOUS PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF STEEL PART

I hereby certify that I have US Postal Service as firs

WITH REGIO

Art Unit

1742

Examiner Roe, J

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Mail Stop AF Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## THIRD AMENDMENT - AFTER FINAL ACTION

This is in response to the office action mailed 09 April 2007.

The newly cited reference, US 1,949,716 of Harsch is wholly cumulative to earlier cited and no longer applied US 3,716,222 of Anderson.

More particularly Harsch has, as correctly noted by the examiner, a longitudinally extending furnace, but it is subdivided as clearly shown in FIG. 8 by a series of partitions 25 into a series of transversely extending compartments. The workpieces, are passed sequentially through the various compartments, being heat-